

CLAIMS

1. Machine for grouping products lying on the ground, particularly having a main frame (1) carrying a first gathering device (14) and a second gathering device (17) which are situated substantially one beside the other during work and to which a first swathing device (15) and a second swathing device (18) are respectively associated, **characterized in that** it comprises separation means (35) situated in front of the inner ends adjacent to the gathering devices (14 and 17).
2. Machine as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the separation means (35) consist of at least one raking disk (36, 37) capable of rotating about an axis (38, 39) which is substantially horizontal and oblique relative to the direction of travel (A).
3. Machine as claimed in claim 2, **characterized in that** it comprises two raking disks (36 and 37) placed in such a way as to practically form a V whose point is pointing in the direction of travel (A).
4. Machine as claimed in claim 3, **characterized in that** the raking disks (36 and 37) are slightly offset one from the other in the direction of travel (A).
5. Machine as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, **characterized in that** the raking disks (36 and 37) are connected to supports (42 and 43) articulated on the main frame (1).
6. Machine as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 5, **characterized in that** the raking disks (36 and 37)

are driven in rotation by their friction motion with the ground.

7. Machine as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the separation means (35) consist of at least one raking drum (46, 47) rotating about a substantially vertical axis (48, 49).
8. Machine as claimed in claim 7, **characterized in that** it comprises at least two raking drums (46 and 47) placed side by side.
9. Machine as claimed in claim 8, **characterized in that** the two raking drums (46 and 47) are driven in rotation in such a way as to turn away from one another at the front.
10. Machine as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 9, **characterized in that** the raking drums (46 and 47) comprise on their lower part a flexible skirt (51) to gather and move the products.
11. Machine as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 10, **characterized in that** the raking drums (46 and 47) comprise driving elements (52) situated above the flexible skirts (51).
12. Machine as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** it comprises separation means (53) situated in front of the outer ends of the gathering devices (14 and 17).
13. Machine as claimed in claim 12, **characterized in that** the separation means (53) consist of raking disks (58 and 59) disposed obliquely relative to the direction of travel (A) in order to move the products toward the gathering devices (14 and 17).

14. Machine as claimed in claim 13, **characterized in that** the raking disks (58 and 59) are articulated on supports (54 and 55) fixed to the gathering devices (14 and 17).

15. Machine as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 6, 13 and 14, **characterized in that** each raking disk (36, 37, 58 and 59) consists of a circular support (40) fitted with teeth (41) on its entire periphery.